

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 207636
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01
SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00 DODE-00 /054 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/RPM:JAFROEBE, JR.
APPROVED BY EUR:JEGOODBY
EUR/CE: WM WOESSNER(SUBS)
EUR/RPM:WSHINN, JR.
OSD/ISA:LTCOL LOCHLEAR
-----120964 302355Z /61

O P 302308Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 207636

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, MPOL

SUBJECT: SECRETARY BROWN'S LETTER OF AUGUST 27, 1977
TO FRG DEFENSE MINISTER LEBER

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF UNCLASSIFIED LETTER FROM SECRETARY
OF DEFENSE BROWN TO FRG DEFENSE MINISTER LEBER WHICH RE-
SPONDS TO FRG INTIMATIONS CONVEYED BY MAJOR GENERAL
BRANDT, MOD CHIEF OF POLITICO-MILITARY AFFAIRS AND
OPERATIONS, DURING HIS VISIT TO DOD AUGUST 17. BRANDT
HINTED THAT MINISTER LEBER WOULD FIND SUCH LETTER
HIGHLY USEFUL IN BUNDESTAG DEBATE ON SECURITY ISSUES
SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 8.

2. DOD HAS TRANSMITTED SIGNED ORIGINAL OF LETTER TO
FRG EMBASSY HERE TODAY IN ACCORD WITH FRG REQUEST
THAT ORIGINAL OF LETTER REACH BONN BY SEPTEMBER 1.
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3. BEGIN TEXT:
DEAR GEORG,

BECAUSE OF RECENT PRESS SPECULATION ABOUT US POLICY TOWARDS
THE DEFENSE OF WESTERN EUROPE, I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE
USEFUL FOR ME TO REPEAT TO YOU PERSONALLY OUR BASIC

COMMITMENT ON THIS SUBJECT.

AS YOU KNOW, THERE HAVE BEEN NUMEROUS STATEMENTS FROM OFFICIALS IN THIS ADMINISTRATION, BEGINNING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER, REAFFIRMING OUR FULL COMMITMENT TO NATO AND TO ITS STRATEGY OF FORWARD DEFENSE AND FLEXIBLE RESPONSE. WE ALSO SHARE WITH YOU AND OUR OTHER ALLIES THE FUNDAMENTAL ASSUMPTIONS WHICH UNDERGIRD THE ALLIANCE'S EFFORTS IN THE LONG-TERM DEFENSE INITIATIVES. MOST IMPORTANTLY, OUR EFFORTS--INCLUDING THE EXTENSIVE DEPLOYMENTS OF US FORCES IN EUROPE--SPEAK ELOQUENTLY TO THE EXTENT OF US RESOLVE.

THIS ADMINISTRATION HAS COMPLETED ITS OVERALL REVIEW OF DEFENSE STRATEGY, AND YOU CAN, WITHOUT RESERVATION, EXPRESS YOUR FIRM UNDERSTANDING THAT THE US STANDS WITH YOU AND THE OTHER NATO ALLIES IN OUR DEDICATION TO THE TOTAL DEFENSE OF THE POLITICAL INTEGRITY, AND ALL OF THE TERRITORY, OF THE ALLIANCE. I WILL SUPPORT YOU FULLY SHOULD ANYONE QUESTION THAT BELIEF.

I WELCOME THIS OPPORTUNITY TO REITERATE THE FIRM AND BASIC COMMITMENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO ALL OF OUR NATO PARTNERS.

SINCERELY, HAROLD.
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END TEXT.

CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TEXT, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE207636
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JAFROEBE, JR.
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770314-0053
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977086/aaaaaezo.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: a918635a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Retention: 0
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Review Date: 05-Apr-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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